

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 99-545

August 19, 1999

CENTRAL MAINE POWER COMPANY
Proposed Tariff for Voluntary
Interruptible Rates

ORDER

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

In this Order, we approve rate schedules filed by Central Maine Power Company (CMP) that allow for the implementation of a summer voluntary interruptible rate in conjunction with the ISO-NE's emergency load response program.

On August 12, 1999, CMP filed, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 307, proposed revisions to rate schedule Interruptible Service – Summer-Voluntary (Rate IR-S-VOL); Fourth Revision to Page 60.00; Fourth Revision to Page 60.10; Fourth Revision to Page 60.20; Cancellation of Page 60.30. In its filing, CMP explains that it is proposing revisions to Rate IR-S-VOL to match the rules of the ISO-NE emergency load response program, filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on August 6, 1999. The ISO-NE filing was made in response to the recent hot weather conditions in New England that have heavily stressed both the power system and the market by increasing demand for electricity to record levels. The program was designed by ISO-NE to help alleviate the problem.

CMP states that it already has customers under contract pursuant to its current IR-S-VOL tariff and that it proposes to allow these customers to take advantage of the emergency program. This will assist the ISO-NE in reducing load during times of increases demand levels. CMP further states that it modified its existing rate schedule to change the determination of need to interrupt from CMP's responsibility to that of the ISO-NE through Action 10 of Operating Procedure No. 4. The demand interruption credit will be \$8 per kilowatt per interruption based on the actual load relief provided.

CMP requests that the Commission allow the proposed revisions to be effective on or before August 13, 1999. Finally, CMP also requests permission to defer costs of the program billed by ISO-NE to CMP for later recovery in its pending rate case proceeding.

Upon review, we conclude that, because the ISO-NE emergency load response program is an effort to maintain system reliability at times of extreme demand, it is reasonable for CMP to have a rate schedule to allow it to implement the ISO-NE's program. For good cause, we will allow the rate schedule to become effective on the date of this Order. Because the ISO-NE emergency rule is effective only through September 30, 1999, we find that the rate schedule should terminate at that time. Finally, because CMP is, in effect, acting as a agent of the ISO-NE in maintaining the

reliability of the system in emergency circumstances, it is reasonable that CMP be allowed to defer costs billed to it by the ISO-NE pursuant to the program.

Accordingly, we

ORDER

1. That the proposed revisions to electric rate schedule Interruptible Service – Summer – Voluntary (Rate IR-S-VOL); Fourth Revision to Page 60.00; Fourth Revision to Page 60.10; Fourth Revision to Page 60.20; Cancellation of Page 60.30, filed on August 12, 1999, are hereby approved; the revisions shall be effective on the date of this Order and shall terminate on September 30, 1999.

2. That Central Maine Power Company is hereby authorized to defer in an appropriate deferred debit account all costs billed to it by the ISO-NE pursuant to the ISO-NE emergency load response program.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 19th day of August, 1999.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Dennis L. Keschl
Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR: Welch
Nugent
Diamond

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within 30 days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 73, et seq.
3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.